

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT



42/14

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

The Food & Environment
Research Agency

INCIDENT NUMBER 42/14
PART OF STUDY FSGD-195
REGIONAL NUMBER W/14/12
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0202/06/14
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Capel Bangor
Cardiganshire
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 19 June 2014
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT trauma
DATE OF REPORT 14 August 2014

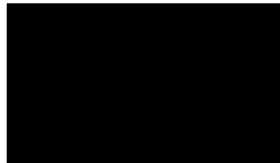
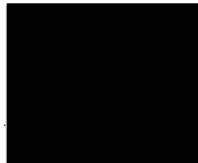
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO



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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
97538	buzzard	26/6/14	VLA ref: 28-B-0202-06-14
97538	buzzard tissues	26/6/14	VLA ref: 28-B-0202-06-14

Summary of field data

A freshly dead buzzard was found at the side of the road. Although it seemed likely that this was a road traffic accident, there were no carcasses on the road to attract the bird and so the finder was uncertain how it came to be in collision with a vehicle. The carcass was delivered to the AHVLA for a post-mortem.

Summary of post mortem report

A male buzzard, weight 752g, fair body condition and mild autolysis was submitted for post-mortem. There was serosanguinous fluid present at the nares. There was a large blood clot, mainly on the left close to the lung and surrounding the liver and extending to the kidneys. The proventriculus and gizzard were almost completely empty, only containing a small amount of dark liquid. There was dark fluid present in the duodenum. The majority of the intestines were empty. Gross examination of the rest of the carcass did not reveal any significant abnormality, but the lymphoreticular and endocrine systems were not examined.

Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

97538	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.026	mg/kg
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Conclusion

Initially it was suspected that there might be some additional suspicious circumstances linked to the death of this buzzard. However, following the post-mortem findings it appeared more likely that the death of this buzzard was due to a traumatic injury. Therefore, laboratory analyses for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides only has been completed on the submitted tissues. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue difenacoum in the liver of this bird, but the amount found is considered to be consistent with exposure only. Therefore, a traumatic injury accounts for the death of this buzzard.